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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 04 LONDON 002169

NOFORN
SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PINR](#) [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [PHUM](#) [IR](#) [UK](#)

SUBJECT: IRAN: EXPAT SOURCE'S INFORMATION AND VIEWS ON

MOJTABA KHAMENEI, AND THIS SOURCE'S PITCH FOR USG FUNDS

REF: A. SECSTATE 83513 B. LONDON 365 AND PREVIOUS C. 07 LONDON 3310 Classified By: Political Counselor Rick Mills for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

[¶1.](#) (S) Summary: Mojtaba Khamenei, son of Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, reportedly is widely viewed within the regime as a capable and forceful

[¶2.](#) (S/NF) Summary cont. This view of Mojtaba Khamenei was given by UK-based Iranian expatriate broadcaster XXXXXXXXXXXX, who provided input ir

[¶3.](#) (S) In response to Department's request (ref a) for information on Mojtaba Khamenei, son of and deputy to Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, Lond

[¶4.](#) (S/NF) In contrast, VOA contract Iranian expatriate broadcaster Ali Reza Nourizadeh (ref b) provided a detailed, nuanced response, attribut

[¶7.](#) (S/NF) XXXXXXXXXXXX offered the below account (paras. 8-16) of Mojtaba Khamenei to stir USG interest and possible support for his own USG c

[¶8.](#) (S) Mojtaba Khamenei is approximately forty-one years old. His marriage, to the daughter of former Majles Speaker Hadad Adel, followed two

[¶9.](#) (S) Within the Supreme Leader's office, Mojtaba works in his father's shadow and in strong partnership with, and under the tutelage of, one

[¶10.](#) (S) Mojtaba is said to have a fair degree of control over access to his father and stays very close to him, including during the Supreme I

[¶11.](#) (S) Though there has been no formal announcement nor any internal acknowledgment of succession plans or expectations, Ali Khamenei is repc

[¶12.](#) (S) Mojtaba is reportedly extremely well-informed, his principal sources including IRGC general officer Mohammad Baqer Zolqadr and IRGC cc

[¶13.](#) (S) Mojtaba reportedly has long maintained a very close relationship with Tehran Mayor and presidential hopeful Mohammad Baqr Qalibaf; Moj

[¶14.](#) (S) Mojtaba is reportedly widely regarded in regime circles as possessing formidable and growing power and political stature, but is also

[¶15.](#) (S) Mojtaba is, however, due to his skills, wealth, and unmatched alliances, reportedly seen by a number of regime insiders as a plausible

[¶16.](#) (S) Reportedly, neither Larijani nor Ahmedinejad, and least of all Khatami, figure into insider debates over a workable future Supreme Lea
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